

**REMARKS**

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Final Office Action dated September 26, 2003, claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner for to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Naito* (5,657,229). Applicant has amended the independent claim to clarify that the modified brake torque signal is determined in response to the wheel slip, an approximated friction curve slope and the normal force. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph 28, and Equation (10). Applicant respectfully submits that the *Naito* reference does not teach or suggest determining a modified brake torque signal in response to wheel slip, an approximated friction curve slope and the normal force. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner for reconsideration of this rejection.

In light of the above remarks, applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account 50-0476.

Respectfully submitted,

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